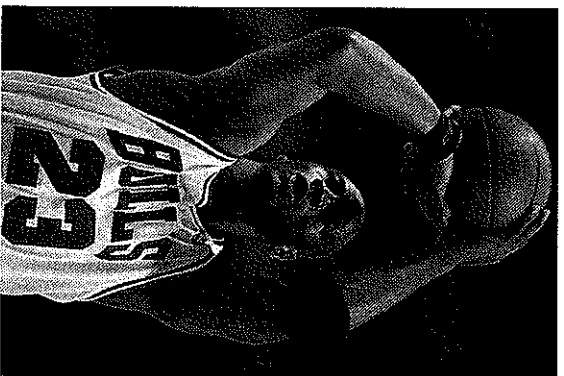


SPORTS HALL OF FAME



Michael Jordan
"His Airness" 1963-

Chicago Bulls shooting guard, considered the best basketball player of all time. Played on two winning Olympic basketball teams, he also led the Bulls to six NBA championships.



Babe Didrikson Zaharias

1914-1966 Known as the best female all-around athlete of her time, she won three medals at the 1932 Olympics. She also won the women's U.S. Open golf tournament three times.

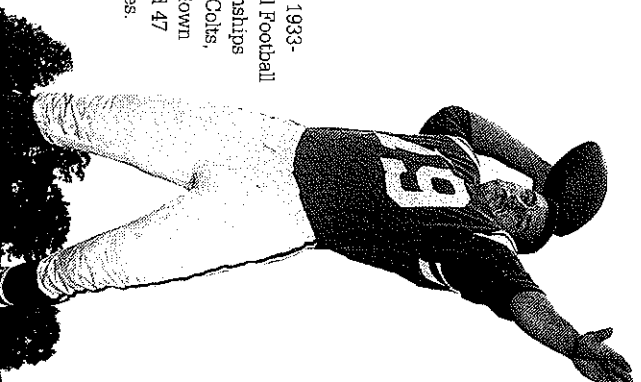


Florence Griffith Joyner
"FloJo" 1953-1998 Three-

time Olympian at the 1988 Olympics. She set records in the 100 meters (10.49 seconds) and the 200 meters (21.70).

Johnny Unitas 1933-

Won four National Football League Championships for the Baltimore Colts, and threw touchdown passes in a record 47 consecutive games.





Nadia Comaneci
1961- Romanian gymnast who scored the first perfect 10 in competition at the 1976 Olympics for her flawless routine on the uneven parallel bars.



Pele 1940- Charismatic international ambassador of soccer. He led the Brazilian team to win three World Cups.



George Herman Ruth "The Babe" 1895-1948
Both an outstanding pitcher and outfielder, he set the record for most single season home runs in 1927 and set the record for most career home runs. Both lasted for decades.

Secretariat "Big Red"
1970-1985 Won horse racing's Triple Crown (Kentucky Derby, Belmont Stakes, Preakness Stakes) in 1973. Secretariat won the Belmont Stakes by a commanding 23 lengths.





Wayne Gretzky

"The Great One" 1961-

Hockey legend for his phenomenal scoring abilities, he lead the Edmonton Oilers to three Stanley Cups during the 1980s. He was voted the Most Valuable Player nine times and scored a record 92 goals during one season.



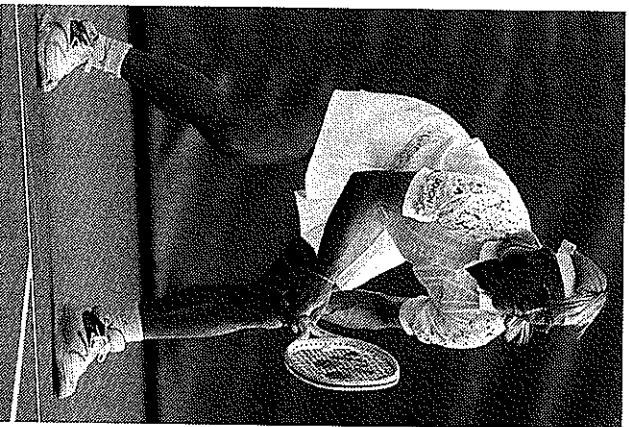
Jim Thorpe 1888-1953

One of the greatest all-around athletes, he won the pentathlon and decathlon at the 1912 Olympics but was stripped of his medals when it was discovered that he had at one time played semipro baseball. The Olympic Committee reinstated his medals in 1982. Thorpe also played professional baseball and football.

Martina Navratilova 1956-

Czech tennis player who dominated women's tennis from 1975-1994.

She won 31 Grand Slam tournaments, and a record 167 titles during her career.



Muhammad Ali

(Cassius Clay)

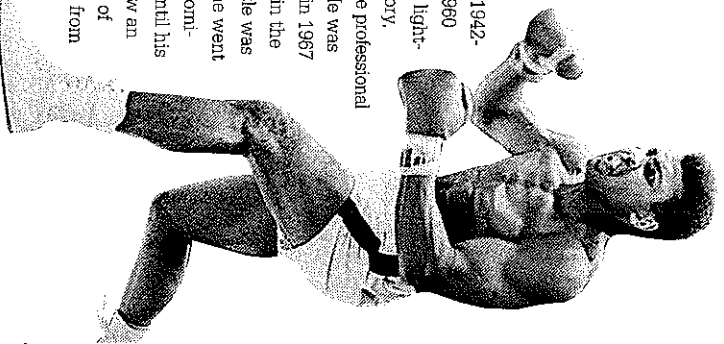
"The Greatest" 1942-

After winning the 1960 Olympic gold in the lightweight category,

Ali went on to win the professional

heavyweight title. He was stripped of the title in 1967 for refusing to fight in the Vietnam War. His title was reinstated in 1970; he went

on to maintain his dominance in the sport until his retirement. He is now an advocate for victims of Parkinson's Disease, from which he suffers.



CONCEPT VOCABULARY

You will find the following terms and definitions useful as you read and discuss the selections in this book.

amateur athlete who engages in sport as a pastime rather than a profession

athlete a person trained in a sport or game requiring physical strength, agility, or stamina

athleticism characteristics of an athlete—vigorous, strong, fair-minded

camaraderie spirit of friendly fellowship

competition a contest between teams or individuals

competitor one who participates in a contest

courage mental or moral strength to persevere and withstand danger, fear, or difficulty

determination acting in a firm manner

hubris exaggerated pride or self-confidence

professional athlete who participates in a sport for money or as a career

sore loser athlete who does not lose gracefully

sport a source of diversion, recreation, and play

sportsmanship fairness, respect for one's opponent, and graciousness in winning and losing

teamwork work done by several athletes with each playing a specific part and playing to the benefit of the group

will mental power used to wish or intend a specific outcome